

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated June 17, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 2, 4–6, 9–11, 14, 20, 22–25, 29–30, and 33–35 are hereby amended; claims 1, 7, 8, 13, 31, and 32 are hereby canceled; and claims 37–68 are added. Accordingly, claims 2–6, 9–12, 14–30, and 33–68 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1–5, 9–11, 13, 14, 16–21, 29, and 33–35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,100,953 to Kim et al. (hereinafter the “’953 patent”); rejects claims 22–28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘953 patent; rejects claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘953 patent in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,083 to Kim et al. (hereinafter the “’083 patent”); and objects to claims 6–8, 12, 30–32 and 36 as depending upon a rejected base claim.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claims 6–8, 12, 30–32 and 36 as depending upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants hereby amend claims 6 to include the subject matter of independent claim 1, amend claim 30 to include all of the subject matter of claim 13, add new independent claim 37 to include the subject matter of claim 7, and add new independent claim 47 to include the subject matter of claim 31. As a result, amended independent claim 6, and claims 2–5 and 7–12, which depend from amended claim 6, contain allowable subject matter. Further, applicants respectfully submit that new independent claims 37 and 47, and claims 38–46 and 48–68, which respectively depend from claims 37 and 47, contain allowable subject matter.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1–5, 9–11, 13, 14, 16–21, 29, and 33–35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the ‘953 patent. By this amendment, the Applicants cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claim 6 to be in

independent form. Claims 2–5 and 9–11, which depend from amended claim 6, are allowable over the ‘953 patent in that they recite “a dielectric protrusion on the center of the hole.” Similarly, Applicants cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claim 30 to be in independent form. Claims 14, 16–21, 29 and 33–35, which depend from independent claim 30, are allowable over the ‘953 patent in that they recite “a dielectric protrusion corresponding to the center of the groove.” As stated by the Examiner, these features are allowable subject matter. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1–5, 9–11, 14, 16–21, 29, and 33–35 are allowable over the ‘953 patent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 22–28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘953 patent. Claims 22–28 depend from independent claim 30. Claim 30, as amended, recites “a dielectric protrusion corresponding to the center of the groove,” which is allowable subject matter. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 22–28 are allowable over the ‘953 patent.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘953 patent in further view of the ‘083 patent. Claim 15 depends from amended claim 30, and contains allowable subject matter for the same or similar reasons as that stated for claims 22–28.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 18, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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